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$ \begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_2 - \text{O} - \text{B}^1 \\ \\ \text{CH} - \text{O} - \text{B}^2 \\ \\ \text{CH}_2 - \text{O} - \text{P} \begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \\ \text{O}^- \end{array} - \text{O} - (\text{CH}_2)_m - \text{N}^+ \begin{array}{c} \text{R} \\ / \\ \text{R} \\ \backslash \\ \text{R} \end{array} \end{array} \quad (\text{I}) $			
(57) Abstract			
<p>A process for coating a surface comprising applying to the surface a solution or suspension, in an organic solvent of a polymer and removing the solvent, wherein the polymer is obtainable by polymerising a phospholipid of formula (I), wherein at least one of B¹ and B² is a group of the formula (II): -(CO)_p-X¹-C≡C-C≡C-Y¹, wherein p is 0 or 1, X¹ is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group, and Y¹ is H or a monovalent aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group, the total number of carbon atoms in X¹ and Y¹ in each B¹ and/or B² being 8 to 26, and the other of B¹ and B² is either (a) the same or a different group of formula (II) or (b) is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group containing at least 8 carbon atoms; m is 2, 3 or 4 and each R independently represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms. The resulting coated surface is useful in blood contacting, diagnostic, and sight correction devices.</p>			

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- 1 -

POLYMERIC COATING

The present invention relates to the treatment of the surfaces of materials to prevent or inhibit adsorption of protein or reduce thrombogenicity.

5 In blood contacting devices problems can arise from thrombogenic reaction at untreated metal, glass or plastic surfaces. Such a reaction can lead to platelet adhesion and clotting, which can have severe, sometimes disastrous, consequences. It is desirable therefore to develop a
10 treatment for surfaces which reduces and preferably avoids such a reaction.

Problems can also arise from non-specific protein adsorption at the surface of devices used in many applications, such as medical devices. For instance, in many
15 modern diagnostic devices, such as many biosensors, a specific interaction between an analyte and a detector species is relied upon. In such situations non-specific protein adsorption can cause a dramatic loss in sensitivity or even render the device inoperable. Similarly, where
20 bioseparation membranes are used, non-specific protein adsorption can cause clogging and thus fouling of the membranes.

Protein adsorption is also recognised as a problem in sight correction devices such as contact lenses. Protein
25 build up on such devices leads to a loss in comfort to the wearer and a deterioration in vision.

- 2 -

Many modern surgical and other medical procedures involve the use of blood-contacting devices, such as surgical implants, prostheses, catheters, drains and extracorporeal circuitry. Such devices are used and then discarded for hygiene reasons: such devices must therefore be constructed from the most economical materials available, usually polymeric plastics or glass. However as already mentioned glass and most synthetic and natural polymers tend to induce platelet adhesion and activation. Initiation of the clotting cascade follows, leading to blockage of tubing and clogging of other apparatus such as filtration and dialysis membranes and interference with test procedures which, in certain cases, may have disastrous consequences for patients. Moreover in cases where a device is intended to be implanted into a patient and to remain for a prolonged period, such platelet aggregation and clotting must be avoided over a prolonged period.

With existing technology, in order to prevent the formation of blood clots during extra-corporeal circulation for haemodialysis, long term gas exchange at states of severe respiratory failure and cardiac support, e.g. after cardiac

- 3 -

surgery, systemic heparinisation is employed. Owing to the risk of excessive bleeding after such systemic anticoagulant treatment many patients are disqualified from possible therapeutic measures. Likewise, commercial catheter sensors, e.g. for continuous determination of arterial oxygen, carbon dioxide tension and of pH in the critically ill patient require systemic heparinisation to prevent microclotting on the sensor membranes and failure of the device.

It has been suggested that heparinisation of apparatus, particularly involving end point attachment of heparin fragments, will result in anti-thrombogenic coating of surfaces and thereby overcome the need for systemic heparinisation. Thus a method was developed in which heparin was coupled by end point attachment [Hoffman, J. et al., Carbohydr. Res., 117:328(1983), Larm, O. et al., Biomat. Med. Dev. Art. Org., 11:161(1983)]. The resulting surfaces adsorbed antithrombin and large amounts of thrombin which were rapidly inhibited in the presence of antithrombin [Pasche, B, et al., Thromb. Res., 44 739(1986)]. It is interesting to note that end-point attached heparin and the endothelium behave both quantitatively and qualitatively alike with respect to the inhibition of thrombin in the presence of plasma [Arnander C., et al., J. Biomed. Mat. Res., 20:235(1986)] and that a polyethylene surface furnished with end-point attached heparin showed considerable capacity to inhibit Factor Xa [Kodama, K. et al., Thromb. Haemostas.

- 4 -

(1987)]].

Rigid polyethylene tubing sections with end-point attached heparin have been kept in the thoracic aorta of pigs for up to four months [Arnander C., et al., Biomat. Res., (1987)].

- 5 When applied to vascular grafts of expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and to polyurethanes and implanted in the arteries of the sheep [Esquivel, C. O. et al., Surgery, 95:102(1984)], the end-point attached heparin surface substantially reduced the platelet and fibrin
- 10 deposition.

- The extra-corporeal circulation of blood through surface-heparinised devices offered the possibility to discriminate between the role of platelets and the plasma coagulation system as the main determining factor for achieving
- 15 thromboresistance. In these experiments, it was demonstrated that coatings with other sulphated polymers were as platelet compatible as the heparin coatings, but still thrombogenic. Using the radioimmunoassay for fibrinopeptide A [Nossel, H. L. et al., J. Clin. Invest., 54:43(1974)] it was shown that
- 20 only coatings on which the heparin molecules could interact with plasma constituents were able to prevent conversion of fibrinogen to fibrin on contact with blood [Larsson R. and Lindahl U. Artif. Org., Vol 3. Suppl. Proc. of the second meeting of the Intern. Soc. Artif. Org., (1979); Larsson R.,
- 25 et al., Thromb. Res., 19:43(1980); Larm, O. et al., Biomat. Med. Dev. Art. org., 11:161(1983)].

- 5 -

Thus the presence of intact functional groups on the immobilised heparin appeared mandatory for achieving thromboresistance and heparin coatings on blood-contacting medical devices could eliminate hazardous systemic
5 anticoagulant treatment.

Experimental haemodialysis has been performed on dogs without systemic heparinisation and with cellulose acetate hollow fibre filters with end-point attached heparin surfaces. The efficiency of the coating on the total extra-
10 corporeal system was demonstrated by the fact that the levels of fibrinopeptide A in the dialysed animals were not higher than in anaesthetised control animals with no surgery [Arnander C., et al., Proc. Eur. Soc. Art. Org., 9:312(1982), Lins, L.-E et al., Proc. EDTA-ERA, 21:270(1984)]. When end-
15 point attached heparin surfaces were used in the extra-corporeal circuit, veno-venous by-pass for carbon dioxide elimination was easily performed for 24 h on dogs in a steady-state condition. After a small release of heparin, the coagulation system seemed unaffected as determined by
20 fibrinopeptide A levels in the circulating blood [Larm, O. et al., An approach to antithrombosis by surface modification. Progress in artificial organs, ISAI0 Press, Cleveland 1986, p313. Inacio, J. et al., Extracorporeal elimination of carbon dioxide using a surface heparinised vein-to-vein
25 bypass system. EUROXY Workshop on design and techniques of extracorporeal gas exchange. Paris, June 20, 1985. Bindsley

- 6 -

L., et al., Trans. Am. Soc. Art. Int. Org. 32:530(1986)].

Although heparinisation can reduce or prevent clotting, this is at the expense of interference with the blood biochemistry, for instance the complexation of antithrombin and other subtle alterations. The heparinised surfaces are exerting many of the effects of heparin when administered as an anti-coagulant drug and the adverse side effects of heparin must, therefore, be taken into account when this technique is employed to improve haemocompatibility of blood-contacting devices.

Much effort has been devoted in recent years to the development of surface treatments, especially by covalent bonding of haemocompatible organic groups which improve the biocompatibility of blood-contacting surfaces and to the production of more biocompatible materials for use in blood-contacting devices such as surgical implants, prostheses and artificial hearts (see, for instance EP-A-0032 622 and EP-A-0 157 496).

In particular EP-A-0032622 discloses di-acetylenic phospholipids which may be used to coat blood contacting surfaces. The coated surface may subsequently be irradiated with actinic radiation, (e.g ultra violet radiation) to provide a polymerised stable coated surface and improve the biocompatibility of blood-contacting surfaces.

Such a procedure is however, not suitable for application to blood-contacting surfaces which cannot be readily exposed

to radiation, such as ultra-violet radiation, for instance by virtue of their position (such as the interior surfaces of tubes), or because they are sensitive to gamma irradiation, for example polyvinylchloride (PVC) surfaces.

5 We have now devised a simple process for reducing the thrombogenicity of blood-contacting surfaces or inhibiting or preventing the non-specific adsorption of protein surfaces which may be used successfully with surfaces, which are inaccessible to ultra-violet radiation and/or sensitive to
10 gamma-irradiation. The surface is coated with a stable coating so that thrombogenicity or protein adsorption will be avoided over a prolonged period.

 We believe that the coatings used in the present invention may be regarded as non-thrombogenic and involving
15 no interference with blood biochemistry rather than as anti-thrombogenic.

 Such coated surfaces therefore have applications in blood contacting devices and in devices where reduced non-specific protein adsorption is desirable, for instance in
20 diagnostic devices which require a specific interaction of an analyte and detector species, e.g. biosensors, bioseparation membranes and sight correction devices.

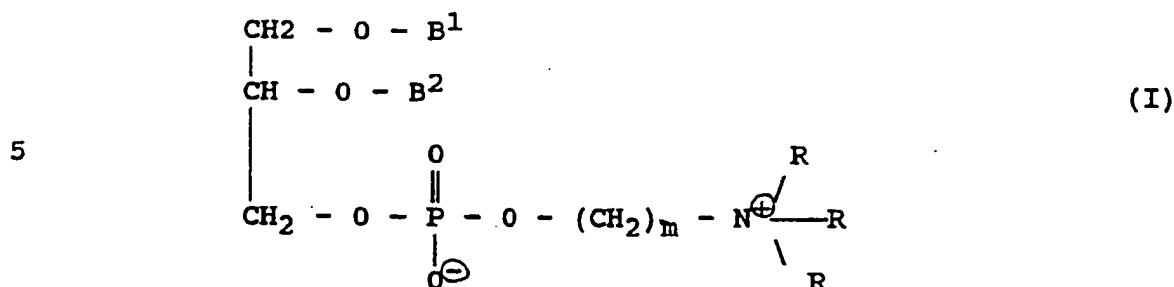
Treated surfaces showing such advantageous properties may be described as having improved biocompatibility compared to untreated surfaces.

5 It has also been found that surfaces coated by the process of the present invention possess no net surface charge. Such properties lead the process of the invention to have further applications for instance in the electronics industry and in electrochemical detection and analysis where electrostatic charge or interfering background charge needs
10 to be minimised.

In addition the present invention offers the further advantages in many applications that the coated surfaces have improved wettability and improved lubricity. This assists in, for instance, avoiding the formation of gas bubbles in
15 tubing and facilitating insertion of catheters via surgical incisions.

According to the invention there is provided a process for coating a surface comprising applying to the surface a solution or suspension of a polymer, in an organic solvent,
20 and removing the solvent, wherein the polymer is obtainable by polymerising a phospholipid of formula (I):

- 9 -



10 wherein at least one of B^1 and B^2 is a group of the formula (II):

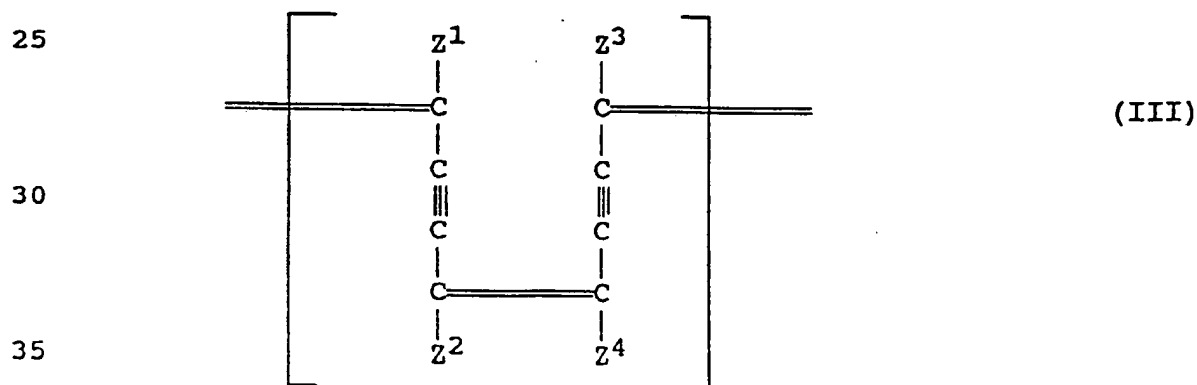


wherein p is 0 or 1, preferably 1, X^1 is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group, Y^1 is H or a monovalent aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group, the total number of carbon atoms in X^1 and Y^1 in each B^1 and/or B^2 being 8 to 26, and the other of B^1 and B^2 is either (a) the same or a different group of the formula (II) or (b) is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group containing at least 8 carbon atoms; m is 2, 3 or 4 and each R

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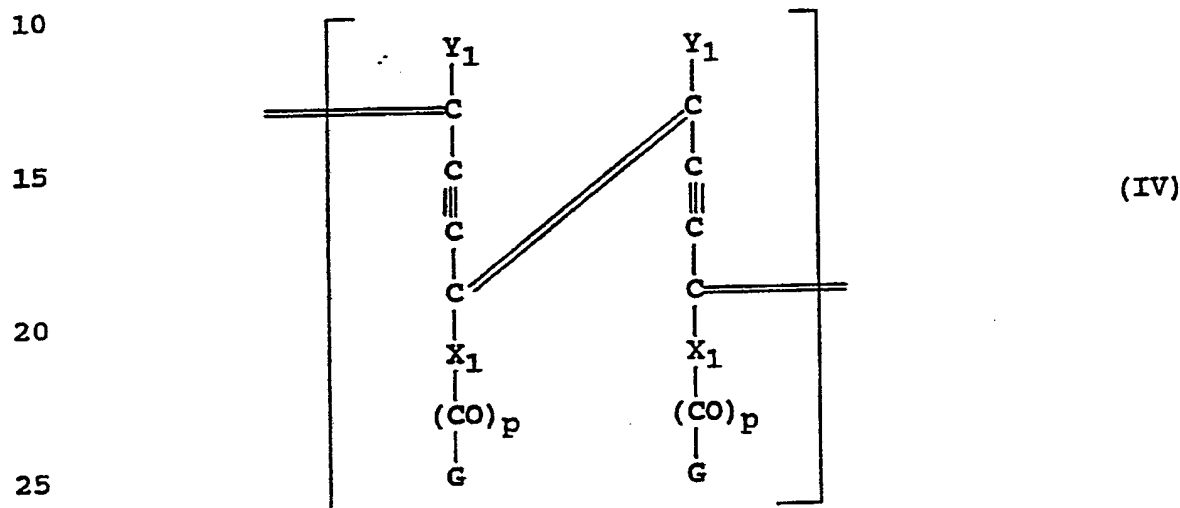
20 independently represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

The polymers used in the process of the invention will normally contain repeat units of the formula (III):

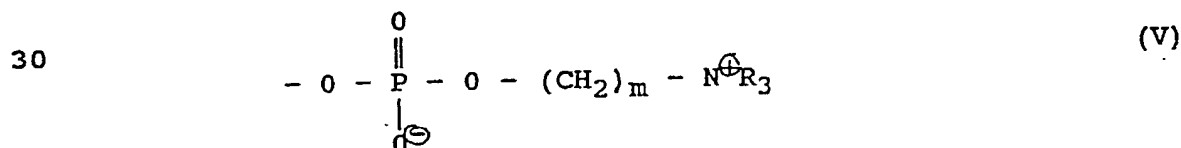


- 10 -

where two of z^1, z^2, z^3 and z^4 are each groups of formula y^1 , as defined above, the other two of z^1, z^2, z^3 and z^4 are each of formula $-x^1-(CO)_p-G$ where x^1 and p are as defined above and G is the corresponding remaining portion of the phospholipid of formula (I). In particular they may contain repeat units linked between opposite ends of the diacetylenic unit, where z^1 and z^4 or z^2 and z^3 are of formula y^1 and z^2 and z^3 or z^1 and z^4 are of formula $-x^1-(CO)_p-G$, i.e, groups of formula (IV):



The conjugated di-ynes of formula (I) have a zwitterionic group of formula (V):



The preferred zwitterionic group is the analogue of the phosphate-linked group of the natural phospholipid lecithin

- 11 -

and sphingomyelin, namely the choline phosphate group wherein
m is 2 and R is methyl. While it is preferred that each R
group is methyl, as it is in naturally occurring products the
groups, R may alternatively be ethyl, propyl or butyl and may
5 be the same or different.

In one embodiment of the invention in the conjugated di-
ynes of formula (I), both B^1 and B^2 are groups of the formula
(II) which are the same or different. Symmetrical compounds
that is to say compounds in which B^1 and B^2 are the same, are
10 the easiest to synthesise and are therefore preferred.

The position of the conjugated di-yne system in the B^1 and
 B^2 residue is not critical. It is for example possible for
the conjugated di-yne system to be at the end of the
hydrophobic chain remote from the carboxylic ester or ether
15 function so that Y^1 is hydrogen and X^1 contains at least 8
carbon atoms. However, it is usually more convenient to
arrange for the conjugated di-yne system to be located
towards the centre of the hydrophobic chain so that there is
approximately the same number of carbon atoms in X^1 and Y^1 .

20 X^1 and Y^1 are each preferably an aliphatic or
cycloaliphatic group and more preferably each unbranched
saturated hydrocarbon compounds. However X^1 and Y^1 may
alternatively be aliphatic or cycloaliphatic groups
containing branched-chain hydrocarbon moieties or containing
25 substituents on the hydrocarbon chains, for example alkoxy
substituents or halogen. It is also possible for the groups

- 12 -

X^1 and Y^1 to contain carbon-carbon unsaturated bonds.

The total number of carbon atoms in X^1 and Y^1 in each group B^1 and B^2 of formula (II) is from 8 to 26 carbon atoms so that each hydrophobic chain contains a total of 12 to 30 carbon atoms excluding any carbonyl carbon atoms. We have found that if the group B^1 and/or B^2 contains less than 12 carbon atoms, the resulting material is difficult to polymerise except at very low temperatures. As a practical matter, we find that the most satisfactory results are obtained when there is from 16 to 26 carbon atoms, particularly 20 to 26 carbon atoms, in the groups B^1 and/or B^2 excluding any carbonyl carbon atoms.

Preferred compounds of formula (I) include those in which B^1 and B^2 are both groups of formula (II), X^1 is the group $-(CH_2)_8-$ and preferably p is 1.

The groups X^1 and Y^1 can also include cycloaliphatic residues containing 3 to 8 or even more carbon atoms in a cycloaliphatic configuration.

For reasons which will become apparent from the discussions below concerning polymerisation of the conjugated di-ynes, it is preferred that both B^1 and B^2 include the conjugated di-yne system so that the conjugated di-yne system can participate in both intramolecular and intermolecular polymerisation. However, a sufficient degree of polymerisation can be obtained simply by intermolecular polymerisation in which case it is only essential that one of

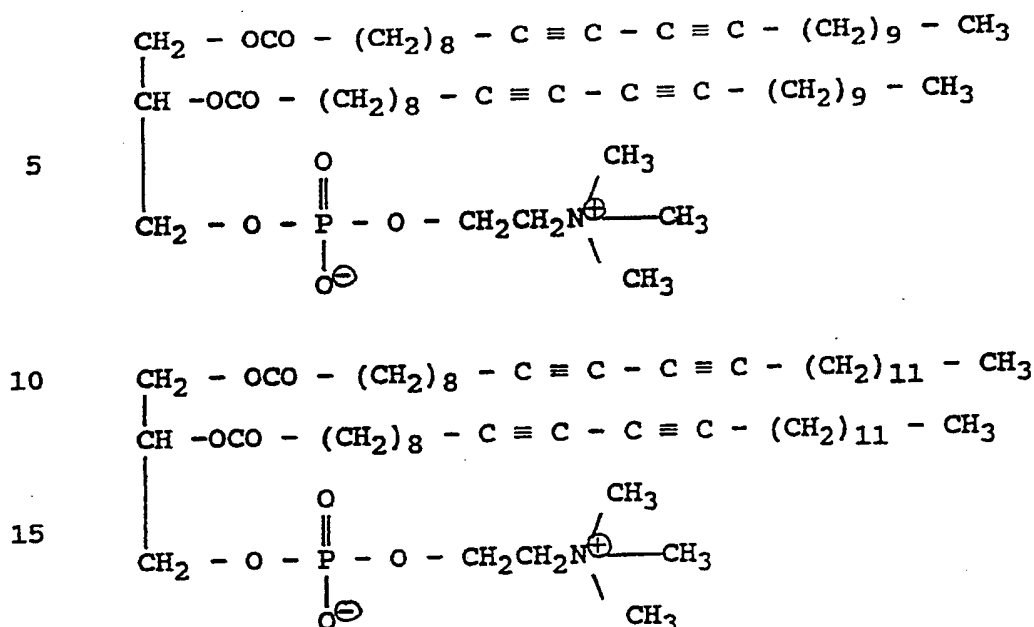
- 13 -

the groups B¹ and B² contain the conjugated di-yne system. Indeed in some cases it is preferred to use a di-yne in which only one of B¹ and B² contains a conjugated di-yne system, so that a linear phospholipid polymer is obtained and not one
5 which contains cross-linking between polymer chains.

When only one of B¹ and B² contains the conjugated di-yne system, the other of B¹ and B² may be an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic residue, preferably hydrocarbon residue, which can be saturated or may contain olefinic or perhaps
10 single acetylenic unsaturation which can be isolated or in conjugation with the conjugated di-yne system. Such groups are again bonded to the glycerol residue through an ester or ether group and should again contain at least 12 carbon atoms.

15 The most preferred phospholipids of formula (I) are 1,2 ditricosanoyl-10,12-diyne-sn-glycero-3-phosphorylcholine and 1,2-dipentacosanoyl-10,12-diyne-sn-glycero-3-phosphorylcholine, i.e. compounds of formula:

- 14 -



The conjugated di-ynes of formula (I) may be prepared by
 20 procedures described in EP-A-0032622.

The conjugated di-ynes of formula (I) can be polymerised
 by subjecting them to actinic radiation, normally gamma
 radiation. Such irradiation produces a polymerisation
 between the conjugated di-yne systems in adjacent
 25 diacetylenic chains. This gives rise to a polymer containing
 repeat units of the formula (III) as hereinbefore defined.

When both B^1 and B^2 contain conjugated di-yne systems,
 there will be both intramolecular and intermolecular reaction
 which is desirable to provide a coating which will be as
 30 stable as possible. For this reason, it is preferred that
 both B^1 and B^2 contain the conjugated di-yne system and, in
 order to optimise the intramolecular reaction, it is
 preferred that the relative positions of the conjugated di

- 15 -

-yne system in B¹ and B² be approximately the same, in other words, that the carbon chains connecting the conjugated di-yne systems to the glycerol residue should not differ in length by more than 2 carbon atoms.

5 However in those cases when a di-yne containing a conjugated di-yne system in both B¹ and B² is used, some solvent insoluble polymer may be obtained due to crosslinking between polymer chains. This may be controlled by selecting the reagents and reaction conditions to minimise such cross-
10 linking and/or by separating the soluble (hence linear) polymer from the insoluble cross-linked material.

Pre-polymerisation is normally induced by exposure to gamma radiation, but in principle, any method known to be capable of inducing polymerisation of conjugated di-yne
15 systems can be used for the production of the polymers used in this invention.

The phospholipid may be pre-polymerised in any form in which there is significant alignment of the molecules (for instance in the solid phase or in the presence of water).

20 Typically the phospholipid of formula (I) is polymerised in solid bulk form, by exposure to gamma radiation of wavelength from .05 to 14nm and at doses of from 1 to 50, preferably 2 to 10, eg 2.5 M. Rads: the exact dosage will depend upon the extent of polymerisation which is required.
25 This procedure may be performed on dry, fine powdered, phospholipid.

- 16 -

Alternatively the phospholipid of formula (I) can be pre-polymerised using ultra-violet radiation. Generally short wavelength UV radiation, e.g. having a wavelength of about 254nm is used. Typically the irradiation is performed on dry powdered phospholipid but in this case it is necessary to stir the phospholipid regularly to ensure that the bulk of the material is exposed to the radiation.

The phospholipid of formula (I) can also be pre-polymerised as a thin layer on a substrate, removed from the substrate and used in the process of the present invention. Suitable substrates include glass or polyethylene. The thin layer may be formed by dissolving the phospholipid in a solvent such as chloroform or ethanol, and slowly evaporating the solvent on the substrate. The use of such a thin-layer helps to orient the phospholipid molecules during polymerisation. After irradiation the resulting polymer may be removed from the substrate eg by scraping or by dissolving in an organic solvent.

The phospholipid of formula (I) can also be pre-polymerised in the form of an aqueous solution or suspension.

The conjugated di-yne may be irradiated in the form of liposomes in an aqueous phase, which may be prepared by known methods. Such liposomes can for example be prepared by dispersion of the conjugated di-yne in an aqueous medium, raising the temperature of the dispersion to one above the lipid or Chapman transition temperature which is the

- 17 -

temperature at which liposome formation occurs and then cooling the dispersion back to ambient temperature. However when polymerisation is performed on liposomes cross-linking between polymer chains often occurs producing an insoluble
5 polymer. In this case it is therefore preferred to use a phospholipid in which only one of the groups B¹ and B² contains a conjugated di-yne system.

As yet a further alternative the conjugated di-yne can be pre-polymerised by irradiation in the form of an emulsion
10 between an aqueous and an organic phase. Suitable organic phases for such an emulsion may comprise chloroform, dichloromethane, or diethyl ether.

The pre-polymerised phospholipid may be separated from unpolymerised phospholipid of formula (I) and any material
15 cross-linked between polymer chains prior to coating on the surface. This can be achieved by exploiting the different solubility of the unpolymerised monomer, pre-polymerised polymer and cross-linked material in organic solvents. For example the solubility of monomeric and pre-polymerised
20 material and insolubility of cross-linked material in chloroform may be used to remove cross-linked material. Pre-polymerised material may then be separated from monomeric material using acetonitrile (eg. at 50°C) in which monomer is soluble and polymer insoluble. Alternatively, separation of
25 monomeric and pre-polymerised material may be obtained on a gel permeation chromatography column, using for example a

- 18 -

chloroform/ethanol mixture (eg 1:1), as a solvent.

Alternatively the phospholipid may be coated onto the surface as a mixture of polymer and monomer species without further purification, which does have considerable advantages
5 in terms of cost effectiveness.

Prior to coating the surface the polymerised phospholipid may be mixed with one or more fatty acid diesters of phosphatidyl choline.

The fatty acid diesters of phosphatidyl choline which may
10 be used in the process of the invention include esters of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids and may be pure single compounds such as dipalmitoyl phosphatidyl choline (DPPC) and dimyristoyl phosphatidyl choline (DMPC), mixtures of such compounds and purified natural products such as the fatty
15 acid diesters of phosphatidyl choline from egg yolk or soya bean lecithin. Mixed diesters of phosphatidyl choline may be used. Preferably the fatty acid side chains will be straight as opposed to branched and will have from 12 to 20 carbon atoms. Purified natural products may contain a small
20 proportion of components other than fatty acid diesters of phosphatidyl choline but these should not generally be present in a sufficient amount to impair the biocompatibility of the coating. In particular, phosphatidyl serine, and other anionic phospholipids which would cause protein
25 adsorption or blood clotting, should be avoided.

The use of these diesters of phosphatidyl choline may

- 19 -

represent considerable economic advantages, since they are readily available. Where such a mixture is used in the process of the invention, it preferably comprises at least 10%, more preferably 20%, by weight of polymerised

5 diacetylenic phospholipid to provide sufficient stability to the coating applied to the surface.

The surface to be treated may optionally be prepared for coating by washing to remove surface contaminants and, to improve the adhesion of the coating, by silylation, plasma

10 polymerisation or otherwise to increase the hydrophobicity of the surface.

Pre-washing of the surface may be effected using a suitable solvent such as those described below which may be the same as or different to the solvent or solvent system

15 used to apply the coating. The surface may also be cleaned by plasma etching in an oxygen atmosphere. Pre-treatment of the surface by silylation is preferably effected using a reactive alkyl silane such as a halo silane, for instance trichloro- octadecyl silane or chlorodimethyloctadecyl silane

20 in a suitable solvent such as hexane or chloroform. Excess reagent may be removed by a further washing step.

As an alternative, pretreatment to increase hydrophobicity may be effected by a plasma polymerisation, under conditions giving a glow discharge e.g. by plasma barrel etching.

25 Suitable monomers for use in such a pretreatment include alkanes containing from five to twenty preferably five to

- 20 -

twelve carbon atoms, e.g. hexane, octane or decane and alkyl silanes containing from five to twenty, preferably twelve to twenty carbon atoms, e.g. octadecyl silanes or for example vinyl silanes.

5 The thickness of the coating will be selected according to the intended use of the device. Typical thicknesses envisaged for coatings according to the invention are in the order of 3 to 1000 nanometres, preferably 10 to 500 nanometres and most preferably about 100 nanometres.

10 The surface to be treated may be a blood-contacting surface, or it may be some other type of surface, e.g. the surface of a biosensor, bioseparation membrane, or the surface of an electronic device or component or of an electrochemical detection or analysis device. It may be a
15 surface of a finished device such as a blood-contacting device or it may be the surface of a material to be used in forming a finished device. In the latter case subsequent forming steps are selected to avoid disrupting the coating formed by the process of the invention in portions of the
20 device where the coating will protect the surface in use and to avoid chemical damage, for instance due to high temperatures, to the phospholipid coating. The surface being treated will hereinafter be referred to as the "substrate".

25 Examples of substrates which may be coated according to the invention include glasses (eg soda glass and silica

- 21 -

glass), metals such as silver and stainless steel, natural polymers, such as cellulose and semisynthetic cellulose derivatives, and artificial polymers such as polyurethanes (eg Pellethane), vinyl polymers such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyesters such as polyethylene terephthalate (eg Dacron), polyalkenes such as polyethylene and polypropylene, polycarbonates and polysulphones and fluoropolymers such as polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) and other poly(fluoroalkenes) including fluorinated ethylene polymer (FEP) which is a copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene and hexafluoropropylene.

The solvent may be any conventional organic solvent which will dissolve or suspend the pre-polymerised phospholipid. Preferably the solvent will be selected for lack of toxicity and environmental hazards, for ease of removal, for compatibility with the material to be treated and for pharmacological acceptability. The solvent may be one which swells a polymeric substrate and this will aid the treatment process by permitting the pre-polymerised phospholipid to penetrate the surface of the substrate. Alternatively the solvent may be selected to avoid swelling of a polymer substrate, particularly where there are fine dimensional tolerances to be maintained or other useful properties of the polymer would be thereby impaired.

Preferred solvents include water, lower alkanols such as methanol, ethanol and iso- or n-propanol, halogenated alkanes

- 22 -

such as dichloromethane, chloroform, alkanes containing typically from 5 to 10 carbon atoms, e.g. pentane or hexane, and mixtures thereof. A particularly preferred solvent is a mixture of ethanol and chloroform, such as from 20:1 to 80:1 preferably 40:1 ethanol:chloroform by volume. Another preferred solvent is a mixture of Freon and ethanol such as from 50:50 to 99:1, preferably 90:10 Freon: ethanol by volume.

The pre-polymerised phospholipid may be applied as a solution or as a suspension in an organic solvent. Where a suspension is used it will generally be sufficiently fine to ensure that a uniform coating of pre-polymerised phospholipid is obtained. Suspensions of pre-polymerised phospholipid may, for example be applied in water or mixtures of freon and ethanol as solvent.

The concentration of pre-polymerised phospholipid in the solvent will be selected to avoid use of unduly large quantities of solvent (and ensuing technical difficulties with removal thereof and economic penalties) whilst enabling efficient coating of the substrate. Preferred concentrations are in the range of from 0.5 to 35 mg/ml, preferably 2 to 20mg/ml, eg. 5 to 10 mg/ml.

The solution or suspension of pre-polymerised phospholipid may be applied by any conventional coating technique such as immersion in a coating bath, spraying, painting or, for flat substrates, spin-coating, the coating conditions being varied

- 23 -

according to the desired thickness of coating and the hydrophobicity of the substrate since the phosphatidyl diesters adhere more strongly to more hydrophobic substrates. Preferably coating is achieved by immersion of the substrate
5 in a bath of a pre-polymerised phospholipid solution or suspension in a suitable solvent at an appropriate concentration and temperature for sufficient time to cover the surfaces to be coated.

The solvent may be removed by conventional techniques,
10 preferably by evaporation under reduced or ambient pressure, in a gas stream and/or at elevated temperature. By careful selection of the solvent, concentration of the solution and coating and solvent removal techniques, the thickness of the phosphatidyl choline diester coating may be controlled within
15 a desired range.

Particularly preferred solvents, concentrations and coating and solvent removal techniques are described in detail and illustrated by the Examples.

Typical blood contacting devices whose blood contacting
20 surfaces may be coated using the process of the present invention include tubing such as catheters, for instance central venous catheters, thoracic drain catheters, and angioplasty balloon catheters, tubing used in extracorporeal circuitry such as in heart and/or lung bypasses and entire
25 extracorporeal circuits such as whole blood oxygenators, cannulae, vascular grafts, sutures, membranes such as those

- 24 -

used in blood separation, apheresis and donorpheresis units,
gas exchange membranes such as used in whole blood
oxygenators, polycarbonate membranes and haemodialysis
membranes and membranes used in diagnostic and biosensor
5 devices, biosensors and other devices used in diagnosis such
as cuvettes used in blood clotting time determinations,
prostheses, artificial hearts and surgical implants.

Other devices may be treated to reduce non-specific
adsorption of proteins including diagnostic devices such as
10 biosensors, bioseparation membranes, sight correction devices
such as contact lenses.

The following Examples serve to illustrate the invention
and are not intended to limited it in any way.

- 25 -

REFERENCE EXAMPLES

Reference Example 1Pre-polymerisation of DAPC

Dry, powdered 1g of 1,2-dipentacosanoyl-10,12-diyne-sn-
5 glycerol-3-phosphorylcholine, (DAPC) was subjected to 2.5
Mrads of gamma-radiation (1 to 10nm). The resulting
material was 10% by weight soluble in ethanol/chloroform
(40:1 v/v) and was a mixture of monomer and polymer (90 : 10)
monomer by weight was determined following separation using
10 gel permeation chromatography.

Gel Permeation Chromatography

The pre-polymerised DAPC may be separated from
unpolymerised DAPC by gel permeation chromatography according
to the following procedure:

15 A column (15cm x 3cm diameter) is prepared using pre-
swelled Sephadex LH60 (Pharmacia Fine Chemicals) in
CHCl₃/Ethanol (50/50). The column is degassed before use.
Chromatographic conditions are controlled using low pressure
liquid chromatography hardware (Pharmacia) This consists of a
20 PI peristaltic pump, a UVI detector with filter (280nm) and a
RECI recorder.

ppDAPC (500mg) dissolved in the minimum volume of mobile
phase (CHCl₃/Ethanol 50/50) is loaded onto the column.
Separation is achieved using an isocratic system and a flow
25 rate of 1.5mls/minute. Fractions are collected every 12

- 26 -

minutes.

High molecular weight polymeric material elutes from the column with the solvent front. Lower molecular weight polymeric material elutes in order of decreasing molecular weight. Unpolymerised DAPC is eluted last.

UV visible spectroscopy and TLC may be used to identify the composition of fractions from the column. Polymeric fractions free from unpolymerised DAPC may be pooled. Unpolymerised DAPC fractions may be pooled for repolymerisation.

Solvent Extraction

Alternatively unpolymerised DAPC may be separated from polymeric DAPC using solvent extraction. Separation can be achieved using the fact that unpolymerised DAPC is soluble in acetonitrile up to a concentration of 50mg/ml at 50°C, whereas polymerised DAPC is insoluble at 50°C, according to the following procedure:

ppDAPC (1g) is treated with acetonitrile (50ml) at elevated temperature (50°C) for 5 minutes and the acetonitrile removed. The ppDAPC may be treated with acetonitrile three more times in the same way and the washings combined and filtered. In this way at least 80% of unpolymerised DAPC is extracted. The remaining unpolymerised DAPC may be extracted by redissolving in chloroform, and repeating the procedure.

- 27 -

The remaining ppDAPC may be tested for unpolymerised DAPC by TLC, UV spectroscopy or by gel permeation chromatography.

TLC may be performed (silica plates) in $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}/25\% \text{NH}_3$ (690:270:45) and visualised with iodine and molybdenum blue.

5 Polymeric DAPC has an UV visible absorbance maxima at 450nm. This peak is very broad and extends to the UV.

Monomeric DAPC has a UV spectrum with 4 peaks at 210, 225, 240 and 250nm purified ppDAPC is free of these UV peaks.

10 Reference Example 2

Reference Example 1 was repeated but using a dosage of 5.0 M.Rads. The resulting material was 88:12 monomer:polymer by weight.

Reference Example 3

15 Reference Example 1 was repeated but using a dosage of 7.5 MRads. The resulting material was 76:24 monomer:polymer by weight.

EXAMPLE 1

Treatment of PVC Tubing

20 Samples of hard and soft tubing of the type used in extra-corporeal circuitry were either washed with warm ethanol or filtered distilled water and thoroughly dried prior to coating.

- 28 -

Both types of tubing were coated in a dust free area to avoid contamination by pipetting a coating solution of pre-polymerised DAPC (ppDAPC) (produced according to the Reference Examples and separated from monomer) in

5 ethanol:chloroform (40:1 v/v) or a very fine suspension in freon:ethanol (10:1 v/v), (5mg/ml or 10mg/ml) into the hollow tube and gently working the solution backwards and forwards (for sections up to 120cm in length) until the whole of the inside of the tube was evenly coated.

10 Excess coating solution was then allowed to drain into a collection bath and the tubing allowed to dry at room temperature. Coatings produced by the above method were homogeneous as judged by surface analytical techniques.

EXAMPLE 2

15 Coating of polyethylene (PE) ribbon

PE ribbon was first washed in ethanol and dried. The ribbon was then dipped briefly into an ethanol:chloroform solution (40:1 v/v) of pre-polymerised DAPC (10mg/ml concentration) and then air dried.

20 This was repeated using ppDAPC solutions containing a mixture of monomer and polymer produced by gamma-radiation at 2.5 MRads (monomer:polymer ratio of 90:10 by weight), 5.0 MRads (monomer:polymer ratio of 88:12 by weight) and 7.5 MRads (monomer:polymer ratio of 76:24 by weight).

25 The coatings obtained by the above method were homogeneous

- 29 -

as judged by surface analytical techniques.

EXAMPLE 3

Coating of PE ribbon with mixed lipids

PE was coated with a solution (10mg/ml) of a mixture of
5 75:25, 50:50 or 25:75 (w/v) ppDAPC/DPPC or ppDAPC/DMPC using
the same procedure as Example 2.

EXAMPLE 4

Coating of polyethylene catheters

Catheters containing a titanium oxide additive were washed
10 with Freon and coated by dipping in a ppDAPC (10mg/ml)
solution in Freon. The temperature was 25°C.

EXAMPLE 5

Coating of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) pharmaceutical vials

15 PET vials were first washed in ethanol and dried. An
aliquot (1ml) of a solution (2mg/ml) of ethanol:chloroform
(40:1) ppDAPC was pipetted into the vial and the vial slowly
rotated until most of the solvent had evaporated. The vial
was then inverted and excess solution was removed.

20 EXAMPLE 6

Coating of polyethylene terephthalate filtration membranes

Woven PET filter material of pore size 10 to 14µm was cut

- 30 -

to size and placed at the bottom of the coating vessel. A coating solution [0.5, 1.0, 2.5, 5.0, 7.5, 10 or 20 mg/ml ppDAPC in either chloroform, ethanol:chloroform (40:1 v/v), freon:ethanol (10:1 v/v) or freon] was poured over the

5 filter. The coating solution was worked slowly over the complete surface of the filter by gently rocking the coating vessel. After 30 seconds the filter was removed from the vessel, the excess removed and then air dried by hanging in a laminar flow cabinet.

10 The porosity of the material was checked by Coulter porometry and found to be unaffected in all cases.

EXAMPLE 7

Coating of PE woven membranes with ppDAPC/DPPC mixtures

The procedure of Example 6 was repeated using mixtures of

15 ppDAPC/DPPC (2.5mg/ml ppDAPC and 7.5mg/ml DPPC).

EXAMPLE 8

Coating of glass pharmaceutical vials

Glass vials were washed with ethanol and dried. An aliquot (1ml) of a solution of ppDAPC (2mg/ml) in ethanol:

20 chloroform (40:1v/v) was pipetted into a vial and the vial rotated slowly until most of the solvent had evaporated. It was then quickly inverted and the excess solution removed.

- 31 -

EXAMPLE 9Coating of glass pharmaceutical vials

Glass vials were silylated, prior to treatment with ppDAPC to render the surface very hydrophobic, resulting in a layer of silane on which a very stable coating is formed. Silylation was carried out by the addition of a solution (0.1% w/v in chloroform) of monochlorodimethyloctadecylsilane to the vial. The vial was left for 16 hours to react and then emptied, washed with chloroform and air dried. The vials were then coated with ppDAPC using the procedure of Example 8.

EXAMPLE 10Coating of polypropylene hollow fibre membranes

Polypropylene hollow fibres of the type used in oxygenators were first washed using Freon and dried prior to coating. ppDAPC solutions (2, 4, 5 and 10mg/ml) were used to coat the material. In this case the ppDAPC was dissolved in freon:ethanol (9:1 v/v). The fibres were coated by slowly drawing them through a "U" shaped coating vessel filled with the ppDAPC solution and allowed to air dry.

The coating was shown to be only on the external surface of the hollow fibre using surface analysis techniques.

EXAMPLE 11Coating of polypropylene pharmaceutical vials

- 32 -

Polypropylene vials were washed with ethanol, dried and coated using the procedure of Example 8.

EXAMPLE 12

Coating of polystyrene petri dishes by spin coating

5 Petri dishes (sterilin polystyrene microbiological plates produced aseptically) were spun (1500rpm) and 1ml of a solution of ppDAPC (10mg/ml) in ethanol:chloroform (40:1) were applied to the spinning dishes using a 1ml pipette. Samples were spun for 30 seconds and then allowed to dry at
10 room temperature.

EXAMPLE 13

Coating of polyester yarn suture material

Samples of dyed and undyed braided polyester yarn suture material were washed in warm ethanol and air dried prior to
15 coating. The washed and dried samples were coated by drawing the suture through a "U" tube containing a ppDAPC (10mg/ml) solution in ethanol:chloroform (40:1) followed by air drying at room temperature.

EXAMPLE 14

20 Coating of silver film by spin coating

A silver film formed by vacuum deposition on glass was coated by spin coating at varying speeds between 550-2000rpm. ppDAPC solutions (1.25, 2.5, 5.0 and 10mg/ml) in

- 33 -

ethanol:chloroform (40:1) were used. The coating was judged to be homogeneous as determined by surface analytical techniques.

EXAMPLE 15

5 Coating of silver film by spin coating

Silver films vacuum deposited on glass substrates were cleaned with ethanol and dried before coating. They were immersed in a solution (2mM) of 1-decane thiol and left overnight to react. The resulting surface was very
10 hydrophobic. The silver films were then coated according to Example 14 above.

EXAMPLE 16

Coating of polished stainless steel rods

Polished stainless steel rods were cleaned with ethanol
15 and dried. The rods were then coated from an ethanol:chloroform (40:1) v/v ppDAPC solution (10mg/ml) by dipping directly into the solution. The rods were left to air dry.

EXAMPLE 17

20 Coating of polyimide

Kapton (polyimide) was cleaned with ethanol and dried. The material was coated from an ethanol:chloroform (40:1 v/v) solution of ppDAPC (10mg/ml) by dipping directly into the

- 34 -

solution. The material was then air dried.

EXAMPLE 18

Treatment of IV catheters

IV Catheters made of FEP (fluorinated ethylene polymer) were
5 coated with ppDAPC using a dipping technique. ppDAPC
(10mg/ml) was dissolved in ethanol:chloroform (40:1 v/v) and
samples immersed in this solution for a few seconds. The
catheters were then air dried.

EXAMPLE 19

10 Plasma Etching and Octane Treatment

Samples of polyamide mesh, stainless steel needles, PTFE
tubing and polypropylene were washed in hexane and dried.
The samples were placed in the etching chamber of a plasma
barrel etcher (RF Plasma Barrel Etcher PT7100 available from
15 Bio-Rad, Polarion Division).

The samples were etched under an oxygen atmosphere (5
minutes). The samples were then placed under an Argon
atmosphere in the presence of octane (5mls). The etching
with octane proceeded for 5 minutes, the octane was removed
20 and the chamber refilled with oxygen. The procedure was
repeated until the samples were judged to be hydrophobic by
measurement of static water contact angle. Between each
etching step the etcher was re-tuned where necessary.

The conditions used for the etching procedure were as

- 35 -

shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1. Conditions of O₂/Octane Plasma Etching
Stainless Steel

	Atmosphere	- O ₂	Ar/Octane
5	Forward Power	- 90W	30W
	Reflected Power	- 4W	3W
	Vacuum	- 1mBar	3mBar
	Time	- 3 x 5 min	3 x 5 min

PTFE Tubing

10	Atmosphere	- O ₂	Ar/Octane
	Forward Power	- 90W	65W
	Reflected Power	- 4W	3W
	Vacuum	- 2mBar	3mBar
	Time	- 3 x 5 min	3 x 5 min

15 Polypropylene

	Atmosphere	- O ₂	Ar/Octane
	Forward Power	- 90W	40W
	Reflected Power	- 2W	2W
	Vacuum	- 2½mBar	3mBar
20	Time	- 2 x 5 min	2 x 5 min

Polyamide Mesh

	Atmosphere	- O ₂	Ar/Octane
	Forward Power	- 90W	25W
	Reflected Power	- 2W	34W
25	Vacuum	- 2mBar	3mBar
	Time	- 3 x 5 min	2 x 5 min

The etched, pre-treated samples were coated by dipping in a ppDAPC solution (10mg/ml) in ethanol:chloroform (40:1), for 10 seconds. The samples were dried in air (30 seconds) and

- 36 -

then dried thoroughly overnight in a laminar flow cabinet.

EXAMPLE 20

Plasma Etching and Silane Treatment

Samples of polyamide mesh, stainless steel needles. PTFE
5 tubing and polypropylene were washed in hexane and dried.
The samples were then placed in the etching chamber of a
plasma barrel etcher (Bio-Rad RF Plasma Barrel Etcher
PT7100). They were made hydrophilic by etching under an
oxygen atmosphere at a chamber pressure of 1mBar with a
10 forward power of 150W and reflected power of 5W. The etching
was carried out for 2 x 5 minutes.

The samples were then silanated by treatment (for 16
hours) with octadecyl silane in chloroform (20%). Excess
silane was removed by washing with chloroform (3 times).
15 All samples were found to be hydrophobic as judged by static
water content angle.

The etched, pre-treated samples were coated by dipping in
a ppDAPC solution (10mg/ml) in ethanol:chloroform (40:1), for
10 seconds. The samples were dried in air (30 seconds) and
20 then dried thoroughly overnight in a laminar flow cabinet.

EXAMPLE 21

In vitro haemocompatibility testing of treated materials by platelet adhesion

A quantitative platelet adhesion test was carried out by

- 37 -

immersing samples in fresh citrated whole human blood at room temperature for 30 minutes. Tubing samples were prepared in 3cm lengths sealed at both ends (blood being introduced into the sample by hypodermic needle), and constantly mixed using
5 a spiral mixer (tests were carried out in triplicate). Blood used in this assay was obtained using the double syringe method from three donors, 1, 2 and 3.

After incubation the samples were washed in isotonic phosphate buffered saline (PBS) and extracted in 1%
10 trichloroacetate (TCA) (w/v) in 2mM ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA) to liberate ATP from any platelets adhering to the walls of the tubing.

The amount of ATP present in the extractant was estimated using the LKB Pharmacia ATP assay kit and a luminometer in
15 accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

The number of platelets adhering to the samples was estimated from a standard curve using ATP levels associated with a known number of platelets.

- 38 -

The results for the PVC tubing prepared according to Example 1 are:

TABLE 2

5	SAMPLE	DONOR				% REDUCTION
		1	2	3	\bar{X}	
	a) <u>HARD PVC</u>					
10	Uncoated Control	4.45	7.57	4.05	5.36	-
	Coated 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.03	99.4
15	b) <u>SOFT PVC</u>					
	Uncoated Control	9.11	3.18	5.68	5.99	-
20	Coated 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.11	98

Results expressed as approximate no. of platelets $\times 10^6$ per 3cm lengths of tubing.

Substantial reductions in platelet adhesion to coated PVC are observed indicating that there is a large reduction in the thrombogenicity of PVC tubing after coating with ppDAPC.

The results for PE ribbon samples ($2.2 \times 3.3\text{cm}^2$) prepared according to Example 2 are:

- 39 -

TABLE 3

	SAMPLE	DONOR				% REDUCTION
		1	2	3	\bar{X}	
5	Uncoated ribbon	24.54	7.28	6.76	12.86	-
10	PE ribbon coated with ppDAPC gamma-irradiated with 2.5 MRads m:p 90:10	1.31	2.83	0.96	1.70	87
15	PE ribbon coated with ppDAPC gamma-irradiated with 5.0MRads m:p = 88.12	1.42	1.38	0.40	1.07	92
20	PE ribbon coated with ppDAPC gamma-irradiated with 7.5MRads m:p = 76:24	1.08	2.02	0.82	1.31	90
25	PE ribbon coated with pure polymer ppDAPC	0.76	1.21	0.97	0.98	92

30 Results expressed as approximate number of platelets adhered
x10⁶ per 7.26cm² of material.

m:p = monomer:polymer ratio

- 40 -

The results for catheters coated according to Example 4 are:

TABLE 4

SAMPLE	DONOR				% REDUCTION
	1	2	3	\bar{X}	
Uncoated PE catheter	14.17	2.45	9.05	8.56	-
PE coated with 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.86	0.21	0.25	0.44	95

Results expressed as approximate number of platelets adhered $\times 10^6$ per 4.5cm lengths of catheters.

- 41 -

The results for PET woven filter material (4.84cm^2) prepared according to Example 6 are:

TABLE -5

SAMPLE	DONOR				% REDUCTION
	1	2	3	\bar{X}	
<u>10μm pore size</u>					
Uncoated	31.21	13.38	17.23	20.60	-
Coated 2 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.42	0.68	0.37	0.49	98
Coated 5 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.33	0.27	0.78	0.46	98
<u>14μm pore size</u>					
Uncoated	90.98	97.61	-	94.3	-
Coated 20 mg/ml ppDAPC	2.66	2.41	-	2.54	97

Results expressed as approximate number of platelets adhered $\times 10^6$ per 4.84cm^2 samples of material.

- 42 -

Results for polypropylene hollow fibres prepared according to Example 10 are:

TABLE 6

SAMPLE	DONOR				% REDUCTION
	1	2	3	\bar{X}	
Uncoated	4.08	4.07	16.95	8.36	-
Coated 2 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.09	0.31	0.24	0.21	97
Coated 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.23	0.20	0.13	0.19	98

Results expressed as approximate number of platelets $\times 10^6$ adhered per 20cm length of hollow fibre.

The results for polystyrene petri dishes coated with ppDAPC according to Example 12 are:

TABLE 7

SAMPLE	DONOR				% REDUCTION
	1	2	3	\bar{X}	
Uncoated	53.96	58.07	73.89	61.97	-
Coated with 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	6.55	4.51	15.48	8.85	86

Results expressed as approximate number of platelets adhered $\times 10^6$ per complete petri dish.

- 43 -

The results from stainless steel rods coated according to Example 16 are:

TABLE 8

5	SAMPLE	DONOR			\bar{X}	% REDUCTION
		1	2	3		
	Uncoated rod	0.36	7.24	1.14	2.91	-
10	Coated rod with 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.04	0.13	0.04	0.07	98

Results expressed as approximate number of platelets adhered $\times 10^6$ per 3cm length of material.

15 The results for polyimide prepared according to Example 17 are:

TABLE 9

20	SAMPLE	DONOR			\bar{X}	% REDUCTION
		1	2	3		
	Uncoated polyimide	0.19	1.68	0.46	0.78	-
25	Coated polyimide 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.06	0.03	0.04	0.04	95

Results expressed as platelets adhered $\times 10^6$ per 10cm length
30 of material.

- 44 -

Results for IV catheters coated according to Example 18 are:

TABLE 10

5	SAMPLE	DONOR			\bar{X}	% REDUCTION
		1	2	3		
	Uncoated	4.10	9.36	11.98	8.48	-
10	Coated with 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	0.76	0.27	2.41	1.15	87

Results expressed as approximate number of platelets adhered
x 10^6 per 5cm length of catheter

15 Results for PTFE tubing, polyamide mesh and polypropylene material pre-treated with octane or octadecylsilane and then coated with ppDAPC according to Example 19 or 20 were as follows relative to material untreated by plasma etching or with ppDAPC.

- 45 -

TABLE 11

	SAMPLE	% REDUCTION IN PLATELET ADHESION
5	PTFE Tubing (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	81
10	PTFE Tubing (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	69
	Polyamide Mesh (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	88
15	Polyamide Mesh (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	92
	Polypropylene (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	85
20	Polypropylene (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	49

25 EXAMPLE 22In vitro clotting times for human whole blood

The clotting times in various uncoated and coated pharmaceutical vials were determined as follows:

1. 200 μ l of fresh frozen plasma was prewarmed to 37°C and
30 added to the vial.
2. 200 μ l of prewarmed (+37°C) CaCl₂ (0.025M) was added to the
vial and the timer started.
3. Vials were maintained at +37°C by dipping into a +37°C
water bath.
- 35 4. Timer was stopped when the first clot was visible.

- 46 -

TABLE 12
CLOTTING TIMES

		SAMPLE	DONOR	TIME (S)
5				
		Glass Uncoated	1	81
			2	205
	EXAMPLE 8			
10		Glass Coated with ppDAPC	1	333
		PET Uncoated	1	361
			2	593
15	EXAMPLE 5			
		PET Coated with ppDAPC	1	413
			2	>480
20		Polypropylene Uncoated	1	353
	EXAMPLE 11		2	543
		Polypropylene Coated with ppDAPC	1	386
25			2	564
		Glass Uncoated	1	145
		Silylated	2	155
30	EXAMPLE 9			
		Glass Silylated and coated with ppDAPC	1	150(1)
			2	237
35				

(1) vial thought to have deficient coating.

In all tests the coated vials have a longer clotting time than uncoated indicating a less thrombogenic surface.

- 47 -

EXAMPLE 23In vitro platelet adhesion observations by Scanning electron microscopy

Samples of material treated according to Example 13, 14,
5 15, 16 and 17 were incubated in fresh, citrated whole blood
as described in Example 19 above. After removal from the
blood these materials were washed using PBS and prepared for
scanning electron microscopy by fixing in an aliquot of the
following solution:

- 10 2ml 25% glutaraldehyde
- 83ml 0.15M PBS (pH 7.4)
- 15ml saturated picric acid

The samples were washed in PBS and dehydrated using
ethanol (70%), followed by absolute ethanol. Finally samples
15 were sputter coated with gold (at 30mA for 3 minutes) and
observed under the electron microscope.

Results

Electron microscopy shows that the ppDAPC-coated materials
adhere fewer blood cells than untreated materials and that
20 platelets are not activated by the treated materials. The
ppDAPC-coated materials therefore appear less thrombogenic
than the untreated materials.

Stainless steel, polyimide, silver, PVC, polyethylene,
polypropylene and braided polyester were all judged less
25 thrombogenic by this technique.

- 48 -

EXAMPLE 24Fibrinogen Deposition Studies

An enzyme linked immunosorbant assay is used which involves incubation of sample in human plasma then detection
5 of adsorbed fibrinogen by a double antibody (the first antibody is specific for human fibrinogen and second antibody which is conjugated to horseradish peroxidase is specific for the first antibody).

Quantitation is achieved by determining HRPO activity on
10 the surface.

Both the silanated and octane treated samples obtained as described in Examples 19 & 20 were tested coated and uncoated and the results expressed as reduction in protein adsorption on coated material as % of protein absorption on uncoated, as
15 in Example 2.

Samples were included in the assay which consisted of ppDAPC coated polyethylene ribbon.

All samples were analysed in triplicate. The precision of the assay expressed as the average co-efficient of variation
20 for the triplicate data points is about 10%.

- 49 -

TABLE 13

	SAMPLE	% REDUCTION IN FIBRINOGEN ADS. (RELATIVE TO UNCOATED)
5	S. Steel needle (silane treatment - Ex 20)	64
10	S. Steel needle (octane treatment - Ex 19)	78
15	PTFE Tubing (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	72
	PTFE Tubing (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	65
20	Polyamide mesh (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	68
	Polyamide mesh (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	84
25	Polypropylene rib (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	83
30	Polypropylene rib (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	71
	Polypropylene end (Silane treatment - Ex 20)	75
35	Polypropylene end (Octane treatment - Ex 19)	73
	Polyethylene (coated with ppDAPC Ex 2)	78

40 EXAMPLE 25

Testing for protein adsorption by 2nd Derivative uv
spectroscopy

Procedure

One litre of borate buffer was prepared by dissolving sodium
45 chloride (8.5g), boric acid (4.6g) and borax (0.4g) in 1

- 50 -

litre of distilled water. The pH of this solution was then measured and was found to be 7.28. A lysozyme solution (1.2 mg/ml) was then prepared by dissolving 300mg lysozyme in 250ml borate buffer. The assay was started by addition of
5 lysozyme solution (10ml) to pharmaceutical vials which were either uncoated or coated with ppDAPC as described in Example 5, 8, 9 and 11. The samples were then incubated (37°C) for 24 hours.

The absorbances of the samples were measured in the 2nd
10 derivative mode and used to calculate the amount of protein adsorbed as shown below.

- 51 -

TABLE 14Protein adsorption results on various coated materials

5		SAMPLE	AVERAGE mg Protein adsorbed	% REDUCTION
	Control	Glass	408.5	-
10	Example 8	Glass + 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	113.4	72
15	Example 9	Glass + Silane + 10mg/ml	94.2	77
20	Control	PET	224.34	-
	Example 5	PET + 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	112.56	50
25	Control	Polypropylene	231.96	-
30	Example 11	Polypropylene + 10 mg/ml ppDAPC	82.44	64

EXAMPLE 23

35 Determination of total amount of coated material and the
stability of the coating

A quantitative assay for ppDAPC was carried out by
immersion of coated materials prepared in the earlier
Examples in a colour reagent containing phospholipase D,
40 choline oxidase, phenol and 4-aminoantipyrine. The samples
were incubated (37°C) for 20 minutes and the absorbance at

- 52 -

505nm was measured using a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 15 uv/visible spectrometer. The concentration of coating material was determined by the use of a calibration curve of uncoated ppDAPC at known concentrations. Stability of coatings were assessed by incubation of the samples in PBS (37°C) for 1 hour. The PBS was extracted with chloroform, the solvent removed and any lipid assayed by addition of colour reagent as above.

TABLE 15

10 Measurement of total coating and coating stability of PE ribbon coated according to Example 2

PE Ribbon

15	SAMPLE	AVERAGE CONC. $\mu\text{g ppDAPC}/\text{cm}^2$ PE	AMOUNT OF COATING LEACHED AFTER 1 HOUR EXPOSURE TO PBS AT 37°C
20	PE Control	-	-
	10 mg/ml ppDAPC 2.5MRad gamma- irradiation	23.5	N.D
25	10 mg/ml ppDAPC 5.0MRad gamma- irradiation	31.3	N.D
30	10 mg/ml ppDAPC 7.5MRad gamma- irradiation	23.0	N.D

N.D = Not Detected:below detectable limit for assay

Sample size = 25mm x 25mm

- 53 -

TABLE 16

Measurement of total coating and coating stability of catheters coated according to Example 4

5	SAMPLE	CONC. μg ppDAPC/cm CATHETER	CONC. μg ppDAPC/cm CATHETER LEACHED AFTER 1 HOUR AT 37°C (in PBS)	AVERAGE % LOSS
10	Control	-	-	-
15	10 mg/ml ppDAPC Coated	11.6 - 17.2	0.57 - 1.06	8%

Sample length = 8cm

TABLE 17

Measurement of total coating and coating stability of PET woven filter material coated according to Example 6

20	SAMPLE	AVERAGE CONC. μg ppDAPC/cm ² FLAT FILTER	AVERAGE CONC. LEACHED OF μg ppDAPC/cm ² FLAT FILTER
25	0.2mg/ml ppDAPC	0.103	N.D
	2mg/ml ppDAPC	0.297	N.D
30	5mg/ml ppDAPC	0.530	N.D

N.D = Not detectable i.e. below detectable limits of assay

Sample size = 35mm x 35mm squares

- 54 -

TABLE 18

Measurement of total coating and coating stability on
polypropylene hollow fibres according to Example 10

5	SAMPLE	AVERAGE CONC. μg ppDAPC/cm PP	AMOUNT OF COATING LEACHED AFTER 1 HOUR EXPOSURE TO PBS AT 37°C
10	Control	-	-
15	2 mg/ml ppDAPC Coated PP	1.25	N.D
20	10 mg/ml ppDAPC Coated PP	3.3	N.D

Sample length = 15cm

N.D. Not detected i.e. below detectable limit of assay

- 55 -

TABLE 19

Measurement of total coating and coating stability of PE ribbon coated with mixed lipids according to Example 3

5	SAMPLE ppDAPC:DMPC Mixture of PE	AVERAGE CONC. $\mu\text{gP}/\text{cm}^2$	AVERAGE AMOUNT OF LEACHED COATING AFTER 1 HOUR EXPOSURE TO PBS AT 37°C $\mu\text{gP}/\text{cm}^2$
10	Control	-	-
	25%:75%	0.73	N.D
15	50%:50%	0.67	N.D
20	75%:25%	0.67	N.D
	ppDAPC:DPPC Mixture on PE		
25	25%:75%	0.72	N.D
	50%:50%	0.66	N.D
30	75%:25%	0.85	N.D

N.D = Not detected i.e. beyond detectable limits of assay

EXAMPLE 2735 Testing of the spreading of water on treated surfaces

PE ribbon coated with ppDAPC using the procedure of Example 2 was tested for wettability using the Wilhelmy slide technique. The dynamic contact angle decreased from 89° before coating to 56° after coating.

40 The static contact angle was measured for various

- 56 -

substrates coated with ppDAPC by the addition of a 5 μ l water droplet and measuring angle of contact of the substrate with a horizontal microscope.

TABLE 20

CONTACT ANGLE		
SAMPLE	BEFORE COATING	AFTER COATING WITH 10 mg/ml ppDAPC
Polyethylene Ribbon (coated as in Example 2)	82, 83, 81, 79	12, 11, <5, 12
PVC Tubing (Soft) (coated as in Example 1)	79, 71, 74, 77	38, 24, 30, 40
PVC Tubing (Hard) (coated as in Example 1)	81, 77, 84, 74	<5, <5, 25, 21

In all cases, after coating with ppDAPC a marked decrease occurred in the angle of contact indicating a surface is produced with increased wettability.

EXAMPLE 28

Protein adsorption on PVC tubing coated with ppDAPC
determined by SDS gel electrophoresis

Untreated and coated PVC tubing treated as in Example 1 were placed into 5ml plastic tubes with 2mls of Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP). Tubes were rotated on a spiral mixer for one hour at room temperature.

- 57 -

The plasma was decanted and each sample rinsed several times with 0.02M Tris/0.16M NaCl pH 7.5. Each sample was left to wash with buffered saline for 5 minutes at room temperature. The samples were rinsed several times as before
5 and washed for a further 5 minutes. The washing was repeated one more.

Samples were placed in new, dry tubes and 300 μ l of SDS PAGE sample buffer was added. The tubes were left to rotate at room temperature overnight.

10 A 20 μ l sample of buffer was removed from each tube, boiled for 2 minutes and run on SDS PAGE under reducing conditions. The gels were stained using Coomassie Blue R250 stain and examined for protein bands.

A notable reduction in the range and amount of proteins
15 adsorbed was detected indicating the surface is rendered more biocompatible by coating with ppDAPC.

EXAMPLE 29

Lubricity of ppDAPC coatings

Catheters coated according to Example 4 were tested for
20 coating lubricity using an Instron device. The force required to pull the coated catheters through a die at 2"/min was reduced to half following coating with ppDAPC.

EXAMPLE 30

Reduction of surface charge

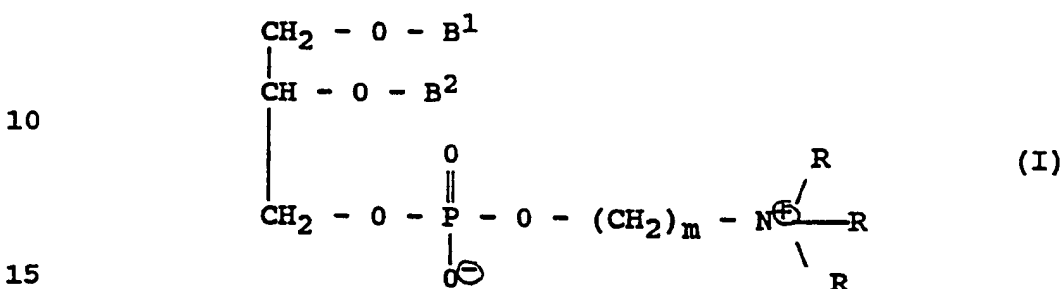
- 58 -

A coating of ppDAPC onto quartz cuvettes pre-treated with monochlorooctadecyl silane to produce a hydrophobic surface significantly reduced the net surface charge. The wall potential was reduced to a few mV. ppDAPC coating may
5 therefore be used in the electronics industry and in electrochemical detection/analysis where electrostatic charge or interfering background charge needs to be minimised.

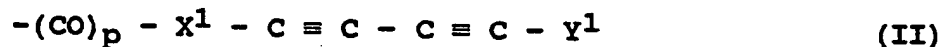
- 59 -

CLAIMS

1. A process for coating a surface comprising applying to the surface a solution or suspension of a polymer, in an organic solvent and removing the solvent, wherein the polymer is obtainable by polymerising a phospholipid of formula (I):



wherein at least one of B^1 and B^2 is a group of the formula (II):



wherein p is 0 or 1, X^1 is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group, Y^1 is H or a monovalent aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group, the total number of carbon atoms in X^1 and Y^1 in each B^1 and/or B^2 being 8 to 26, and the other of B^1 and B^2 is either (a) the same or a different group of the formula (II) or (b) is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group containing at least 8 carbon atoms; m is 2, 3 or 4 and each R independently represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

2. A process according to claim 1 in which the surface is a blood-contacting surface.

3. A process according to claim 1 or 2 in which the surface is subject to non-specific adsorption of protein.

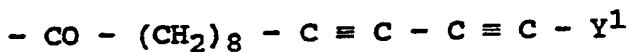
- 60 -

4. A process according to claim 1, 2, or 3, wherein in the phospholipid of formula (I), B¹ and B² are identical or different groups of the formula (II).

5. A process according to any one of the preceding
5 claims wherein in the phospholipid of formula (I), each group B¹ and/or B² of formula (II) contains from 20 to 26 carbon atoms excluding any carbonyl carbon atoms.

6. A process according to any one of the preceding
10 claims wherein in the phospholipid of formula (I), the number of carbon atoms in each X¹ is such that the di-yne will undergo both intramolecular and intermolecular polymerisation on exposure to actinic radiation.

7. A process according to any one of the preceding
15 claims wherein in the phospholipid of formula (I) B¹ and B² each represent

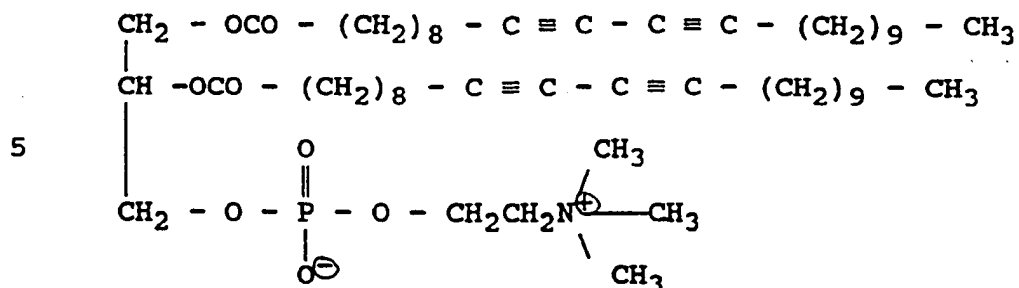


wherein the groups Y¹ are the same or different.

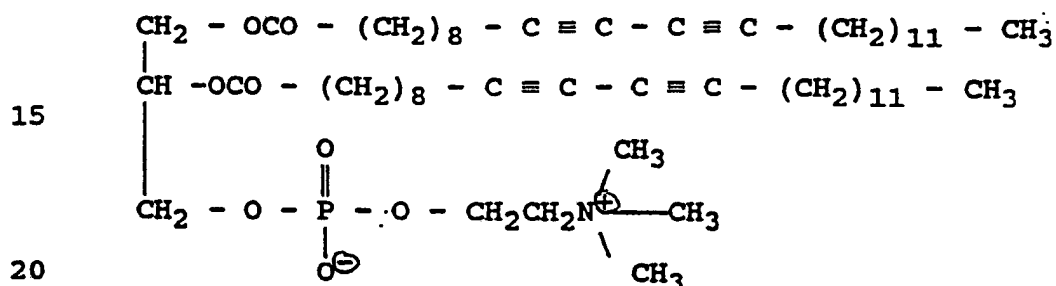
8. A process according to any one of the preceding
20 claims wherein in the phospholipid of formula (I) m is 2 and each R is methyl.

9. A process according to any one of the preceding
claims wherein the phospholipid of formula (I) is:

- 61 -



- 10 10. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the phospholipid of formula (I) is:



11. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the surface is treated with a mixture comprising unpolymerised phospholipid of formula (I) and a polymer obtainable from a phospholipid of formula (I).

- 25 12. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein a mixture comprising a polymer obtainable from a phospholipid of formula (I) and a diester of phosphatidyl choline is applied to the surface.

13. A process according to claim 11 wherein the diester of phosphatidyl choline is dipalmitoyl phosphatidyl choline, dimyristoyl phosphatidyl choline or distearoyl phosphatidyl choline.
- 30

14. A process according to any one of the preceding

- 62 -

claims which comprises treating the surface to increase the hydrophobicity of the surface, prior to coating with the polymer.

15 15. A process according to claim 14 wherein prior to coating with the polymer the surface is treated with a reactive alkyl silane or plasma polymerised in the presence of an alkane or alkyl silane.

10 16. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the surface is coated with a solution of the polymer in a lower alkanol or halogenated alkane or a mixture thereof.

17. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the solution or suspension comprises from 0.5 to 35 mg/ml of phospholipid.


15 18. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the solution is applied by immersion in a coating bath, spraying, painting or spin coating.

20 19. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the coating has a thickness of from 3 to 1000nm.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 92/01012

International Application No

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ⁶		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
Int.Cl. 5 A61L33/00; A61L29/00; C07F9/10		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched ⁷		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
Int.Cl. 5	A61L	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁸		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT⁹		
Category ¹⁰	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
Y	WO,A,9 100 745 (MACNAUGHT PTY) 24 January 1991 see claim 2	1-14
Y	EP,A,0 032 622 (D.CHAPMAN) 29 July 1981 cited in the application see claims 1-15	1-14
<p>¹⁰ Special categories of cited documents : ¹⁰</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>		
IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report	
01 SEPTEMBER 1992	17. 09. 92	
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer	
EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE	PELTRE CHR. 	

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO. GB 9201012
SA 60134

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information. 01/09/92

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